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# COLAB

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June 3, 1980

TO: San Francisco Bay Area Legislative Delegation  
FROM: COLAB Executive Committee  
by Bonnie England, Executive Secretary  
RE: SCA 46 (Speraw)

The COLAB Executive Committee supports SCA 46. COLAB has long urged that the inequity created by Proposition 13 provisions calling for reassessment on sale and assessment of new construction be eliminated. Indeed, the California Supreme Court (in upholding the Constitutionality of Proposition 13) was principally bothered by this unfair provision which rewarded people who stayed put and punished those who moved by imposing higher taxes. We assume that the Supreme Court expected that the people of California would recognize the inequity and would vote to change it given the opportunity. SCA 46 provides this opportunity and should be passed.

We know that some who oppose growth might also oppose SCA 46. We believe that this position is irresponsible. Simply put, we see no justification whatsoever for like property to be taxed differently solely because one property is recently sold or newly constructed. The shortage of affordable housing in California and the plight of the construction industry should not be ignored by allowing the assessment inequities contained in Proposition 13 to continue.

COLAB also recognizes that the passage of Proposition 13 cut local government back severely and that the passage of SCA 46 does not help the situation. It is our opinion that this is not a good reason to retain the inequitable or socially damaging reassessment practices contained in Proposition 13 as originally passed.

We believe that alternative sources of funding (other than the property tax) can and will be found to help local government respond to the effects of Proposition 13.

Above all, we believe that the people of California should be given a choice by allowing SCA 46 to go on the ballot.

cc: Colab Members

Note: SCA 46 has cleared the Senate and is scheduled for the floor of the Assembly in early June.

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